

### **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A method, apparatus and article of manufacture for managing a reusable storage medium having a plurality of media blocks. A particular media block is included in a media set if the media block is used to store at least a portion of one linearly ordered data block. In one embodiment, an active window table is created to monitor the media blocks in the media set. If all data blocks stored in a particular media block have expired, then the media block is identified for further processing. The identified media blocks are removed from the active window table. A determination is made as to whether any identified media block is a reference media block that is an oldest media block in the media set. If the identified media block is the reference media block, the active window table is updated to indicate the reference media block as the oldest media block of the remaining media blocks in the active window table.